Coconut Fibre Technological Research Institute in Kerala

2367. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Agriculture and Coir Minister of Kerala has written to the Minister regarding the urgent need for establishment of a Coconut Fibre Technological Research Institute in the State, by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's response thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) To tackle the problems of coir sector, Indian Council of Agriculture Research has constituted a working group. The group has felt that research problems in coir sector could be tackled more effectively through strengthening of the collaborative programmes among different institutions concerned rather than starting a new research institute exclusively for this purpose. Therefore, Indian Council of Agricultural Research has no plans to establish a Coconut Fibre Technological Research Institute in Kerala.

Procurement of chillies by NAFED in Andhra Pradesh

2368. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether NAFED had undertaken procurement of chillies in the recent past in Andhra Pradesh under Market Intervention Scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what were the terms and conditions approved by the Ministry in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. However, the procurement of chillies was made by the A.P. Markfed under the Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) during the year 2001.